

San Luis Obispo – Buffer Distance Range by Crop Table

Source: County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Agriculture/Measurement Standards, "Agricultural Buffers Policies and Procedures," November 2005, page 6

Type of Agricultural Use	Buffer Distance Range
1. Intensive Agricultural Use	
Vineyards	200 – 600 feet
Irrigated orchards	200 – 600 feet
Irrigated vegetables and berries	200 – 600 feet
Irrigated Forage and Field Crops	100 – 400 feet
Wholesale nurseries – Outdoors	100 – 500 feet
Greenhouses	100 – 300 feet
2. Non-Intensive Agricultural Uses	
Dry farm field crops, orchards and vineyards	100 – 200 feet
Rangeland/pasture	50 – 200 feet

Site-specific non-crop factors (such as topography, prevailing wind direction, and elevation differences) and proposal specifications often affect the final buffer distance recommendation within the ranges listed above in Number 1 and 2. Significant overriding factors or land unsuitable for agricultural use could justify recorded buffers less than the indicated range.